under section 20 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995:

(i) An Inter-Ministerial Committee consisting of officers from the Ministries of Information and Broadcasting, Home Affairs, External Affairs, Defence and Law to render advice on the violations of the Programme Code; and

(ii) A Committee consisting of officers from the Ministries of Information and Broadcasting, Women and Child Development, Health and Law and representative from the Advertising Standards Council of India to look into the violations of Advertising Code including cases of surrogate advertising.

In the recent past, Government received many complaints and representations against frequent and arbitrary increases in the cable subscription charges. Taking not of the fact that there are no legal provisions enabling the Government to regulate the subscription charges, the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Amendment 2002 Bill has been introduced to provide for mandatory viewing of pay channels through an Addressability System. These amendments in the Cable Act will not only enable the consumers in choosing the channels wihich they wish to see and pay for, but also empower the Government to ensure that every subscriber receives at least a minimum number of free-to-air channels, at a reasonable cost. The Bill has been passed by the Lok Sabha on 15th May, 2002.

Implementation of welfare schemes

*318. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released to various State Governments and Union Territories for implementation of various welfare schemes during the last three years, year-wise and State/UT-wise;

(b) the amount utilized by each of the States/UTs;

(c) the action proposed to be taken in respect of the States/UTs for under-utilisation and/or diversion of funds;

(d) whether Government have drawn any action plan for ensuring that the States/UTs fully utilize the funds in implementing all the welfare schemes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Statements showing amount released to various State Governments/UTs for implementing various schemes during last three years, year-wise and State/UT-wise and utilization certificates received is enclosed at Annexure. [*See* Appendix 196, Annexure No.19]

(c) to (e) State Governments/UTs are released funds only after receipt of utilization certificates that are due from them on account of releases made previously. The Ministry constantly pursues the matter through correspondence, Officers of the Ministry while visiting States/UTs also take up this issue and periodic meetings are held with State Secretaries where again timely utilization of released funds is stressed.

Under-Valuation of Maruti Udyog Ltd.

†*319. SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for which the Maruti Udyog Limited has been sold to Suzuki Motor Corporation;

(b) whether the actual assets of Maruti Udyog were under assessed and it was sold at a throw-away price; and

(c) whether a guarantee has been taken from the Suzuki Motor Corporation to the effect that their Management will not retrench the employees by showing losses?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Government established Maruti Udyog Ltd. (MUL) as a Government company in 1981 with the objectives of modernizing Indian automobile industry; production of fuel-efficient vehicle to conserve scarce resources and production of large number of vehicles necessary for economic growth. Later Government entered into an agreement with Suzuki Motor

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.